

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. A method comprising:
- 2 creating a multimedia annotation for a paper document; and
- 3 combining the paper document and the multimedia annotation to form a
- 4 first multimedia document.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the multimedia annotation is represented
- 2 as a first bar code printed on the multimedia document.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the first bar code encodes an audio sound.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein a location indicator associated with the
- 2 multimedia annotation is placed on the multimedia document, wherein
- 3 the location indicator indicates where the multimedia annotation can be
- 4 retrieved and played.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the location indicator comprises a first
- 2 Uniform Resource Locator (URL), and a second bar code, wherein the
- 3 first URL is indicated in plain text, and wherein the second bar code
- 4 represents the first URL.

- 1 6. The method of claim 4, wherein the multimedia annotation comprises an
2 audio sound, a video clip, and a combination of both the audio sound and
3 the video clip.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the first multimedia document is a paper
2 document.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 generating an image of the paper document;
3 combining the image of the paper document and the multimedia
4 annotation to form a second multimedia document; and
5 storing the image of the paper document and the multimedia annotation.
- 1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the second multimedia document is
2 represented as a second Uniform Resource Locator (URL), and wherein
3 the image of the paper document and the multimedia annotation is
4 accessed with the second URL.
- 1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein a third bar code is used to represent the
2 second URL.
- 1 11. The method of claim 8, further comprising sending the second multimedia
2 document to a recipient by electronic mail.

- 1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the recipient receives the image of the
2 paper document and the multimedia annotation in the form of Multi-
3 purpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME).
- 1 13. A machine-readable medium providing instructions, which when executed
2 by a set of one or more processors, cause said set of processors to perform
3 the following:
4 creating a multimedia annotation for a paper document; and
5 combining the paper document and the multimedia annotation to form a
6 first multimedia document.
- 1 14. The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the multimedia
2 annotation is represented as a first bar code printed on the multimedia
3 document.
- 1 15. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the first bar code
2 encodes an audio sound.
- 1 16. The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein a location indicator
2 associated with the multimedia annotation is placed on the multimedia
3 document, wherein the location indicator indicates where the multimedia
4 annotation can be retrieved and played.
- 1 17. The machine-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the location indicator
2 comprises a first Uniform Resource Locator (URL), and a second bar

3 code, wherein the first URL is indicated in plain text, and wherein the
4 second bar code represents the first URL.

1 18. The machine-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the multimedia
2 annotation comprises an audio sound, a video clip, and a combination of
3 both the audio sound and the video clip.

1 19. The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the first multimedia
2 document is a paper document.

1 20. The machine-readable medium of claim 13, further comprising:
2 generating an image of the paper document;
3 combining the image of the paper document and the multimedia
4 annotation to form a second multimedia document; and
5 storing the image of the paper document and the multimedia annotation.

1 21. The machine-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the second multimedia
2 document is represented as a second Uniform Resource Locator (URL),
3 and wherein the image of the paper document and the multimedia
4 annotation is accessed with the second URL.

1 22. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein a third bar code is
2 used to represent the second URL.

1 23. The machine-readable medium of claim 20, further comprising sending the
2 second multimedia document to a recipient by electronic mail.

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1 24. The machine-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the recipient receives
2 the image of the paper document and the multimedia annotation in the
3 form of Multi-purpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME).

1 25. A computer system, comprising:
2 a bus;
3 a data storage device coupled to the bus; and
4 a processor coupled to the data storage device, the processor operable to
5 receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the
6 processor to perform a method comprising:
7 creating a multimedia annotation for a paper document; and
8 combining the paper document and the multimedia annotation to
9 form a first multimedia document.

1 26. The computer system of claim 25, wherein the multimedia annotation is
2 represented as a first bar code printed on the multimedia document;

1 27. The computer system of claim 26, wherein the first bar code encodes an
2 audio sound.

1 28. The computer system of claim 25, wherein a location indicator associated
2 with the multimedia annotation is placed on the multimedia document,
3 wherein the location indicator indicates where the multimedia annotation
4 can be retrieved and played.

1 29. The computer system of claim 28, wherein the address comprises a first
2 Uniform Resource Locator (URL), and a second bar code, wherein the
3 first URL is indicated in plain text, and wherein the second bar code
4 represents the first URL.

1 30. The computer system of claim 28, wherein the multimedia annotation
2 comprises an audio sound, a video clip, and a combination of both the
3 audio sound and the video clip.

1 31. The computer system of claim 25, wherein the first multimedia document is
2 a paper document.

1 32. The computer system of claim 25, further comprising:
2 generating an image of the paper document;
3 combining the image of the paper document and the multimedia
4 annotation to form a second multimedia document; and
5 storing the image of the paper document and the multimedia annotation.

1 33. The computer system of claim 32, wherein the second multimedia
2 document is represented as a second Uniform Resource Locator (URL),
3 and wherein the image of the paper document and the multimedia
4 annotation is accessed with the second URL.

1 34. The computer system of claim 33, wherein a third bar code is used to
2 represent the second URL.

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1 35. The computer system of claim 32, further comprising sending the second
2 multimedia document to a recipient by electronic mail.

1 36. The computer system of claim 35, wherein the recipient receives the image
2 of the paper document and the multimedia annotation in the form of
3 Multi-purpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME).

1 37. A method comprising:
2 creating a document to be used with a multimedia annotation;
3 creating the multimedia annotation;
4 storing an image of the document and the multimedia annotation; and
5 combining the document and the multimedia annotation to form a
6 multimedia document.

1 38. The method of claim 37, wherein combining the document and the
2 multimedia annotation comprises:
3 creating a paper multimedia document by associating the multimedia
4 annotation with the paper document; and
5 creating an electronic multimedia document by associating the multimedia
6 annotation with the image of the document.

1 39. The method of claim 38, wherein the multimedia annotation associated
2 with the paper multimedia document is represented as a first bar code

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3 printed on the paper multimedia document, wherein the first bar code
4 encodes an audio sound.

1 40. The method of claim 38, wherein a location indicator of the multimedia
2 annotation associated with the paper multimedia annotation is placed on
3 the paper multimedia document, wherein the location indicator indicates
4 where the multimedia annotation can be retrieved and played.

1 41. The method of claim 40, wherein the location indicator comprises a
2 Uniform Resource Locator (URL), and a second bar code, wherein the
3 URL is indicated in plain text, and wherein the second bar code
4 represents the URL.

1 42. The method of claim 40, wherein the multimedia annotation comprises an
2 audio sound, a video clip, and a combination of both the audio sound and
3 the video clip.

1 43. The method of claim 38, further comprising sending the electronic
2 multimedia document to a recipient, wherein the recipient receives the
3 electronic multimedia document in the form of an attachment to an
4 electronic mail.